

The Prodigal Son's Brother

October 11, 2009

Luke 15:11-32

1. Subordinating himself to his Father.

Romans 12:1 "I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship." RSV

- **God wants you to seek Him.**
- **He wants you to surrender your life to Him on a daily basis.**
- **He will respond to your efforts.**

2. A high acceptance quotient.

John 6:37b "...I will never refuse anyone who comes to me." JB Phillips

3. Learning personal obedience.

John 14:21 "He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father and I will love him and manifest Myself to him." RSV

- **As we grow in our obedience we get more of God.**

4. Reaching out to a hurting and dying world.

Philippians 2:3, 4 "...but in humility count others better than yourselves. Let each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." RSV

- **Reach out to others.**
- **Take a sincere interest in others needs for a Life Group.**
- **Invite people to your life group.**
- **Feel free to start a life group (We will help you.)**

5. Everyone is a minister.

Ephesians 2:10, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." NASB

- **Community is a safe place to use your gifts.**
- **In Life Groups you can develop your God given talents.**
- **You can further His kingdom in people's hearts.**

6. Significant Spiritual Growth.

Colossians 2:6,7 "And now just as you trusted Christ to save you, trust him, too, for each day's problems; live in vital union with him. Let your roots grow down in to him and draw up nourishment from him. See that you go on growing in the Lord, and become strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught. Let your lives overflow with joy and thanksgiving for all he has done." LIVING

- **Connect with Christ through the Scriptures.**
- **If we grow in obedience, we can expect more of Jesus.**
- **Learn to sink your roots deep into Him, draw up nourishment from Him.**